

Serial No.: 09/741,986

Attorney's Docket No.:10559/376001/P10182

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending, with claims 1, 15, 18 and 24 being independent. Claims 1, 15, 18 and 24 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1, 15, 18 and 24 have been amended to better emphasize their patentable distinctions over the art of record. The present amendment makes clear that the claimed importation creates an X-package document based on the vendor package template in preparation for later software distribution and installation, and creates the X-package in a format that makes the X-package manageable in a software package management system independent of vendor-specific aspects of the at least one software package. (Emphasis added.) In view of this amendment, and the prior amendment faxed November 2, 2004, the independent claims should be allowable. Dependent claims 2-14, 16-17, 19-23, and 25-28 are patentable based on the previously presented arguments and based on their own merits. Thus, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that issue or comment. Because the arguments made above may not be

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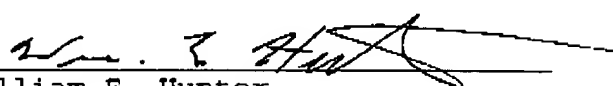
exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

It is respectfully suggested for all of these reasons, that none of the cited art teaches or suggests the features which are now claimed, and therefore that all of these claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice of allowance is thus respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be due with this response. Please apply any necessary charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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